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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/675,713	WANG ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Neil R. McLean	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS,
WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>30 September 2003</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1,3-8,10-15 and 17-28</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1,3-8,10-15 and 17-28</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Status of Claims

1.   Claims 1, 3-8, 10-15, 17-22, and 24-28 are pending in this application.

Claims 2, 9, 16, and 23 have been canceled.

Independent Claims 1, 8, 15, and 22 have been amended.

No new claims have been added.

Response to Arguments

2.   Applicant's arguments, see Page 9, lines15-18, filed 4/23/2008 with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-28 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Kim (US 2003/0128386).

3.   Regarding Applicant's Amendment:

"all claims include limitation wherein a print driver is obtained and loaded from a print server to a client machine. The installed driver then obtains printer information, and subsequently maps a port corresponding thereto...such a port mapping, performed via in installed driver, is not only missing form the art of record but teaches away from such art."

Examiners Response:

Lozano et al. does not disclose wherein a print driver is obtained and loaded from a client machine and mapping a port from the at least one selected network accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine.

Kim discloses wherein a print driver is obtained and loaded from a print server to a client machine and mapping a port from the at least one selected network accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine.

FIG. 2 is a block diagram illustrating a peripheral device driver to carry out the method of setting a port, and illustrates a peripheral <u>device driver 40 to carry out the method of setting a port</u>, which is described with reference to FIG. 1, and comprises a host 30 and a peripheral device 32.

The peripheral device driver 40 may be built in the host 30 and serves to drive the peripheral device 32. As described above, in a case where the method of setting a port is carried out in the peripheral device driver 40, the peripheral device driver 40 can carry out the method of setting the port when it monitors or drives the peripheral device 32 as described in [0026].

If it is determined that the port to interlink the host 30 with the peripheral device 32 exists in operation 12, operation 14 may be skipped and operation 16 may be carried out. In this case, the method of setting a port described with reference to FIG. 1 does not perform operation 14, and the method of processing a job does not perform operation 20. In other words, if it is determined that the port to physically interlink the host 30 with the peripheral device 32 exists in operation 12, the basic port is switched over to the port to physically interlink the host 30 with the peripheral device 32 in operation 16. Finally, the peripheral device driver 40 which exists in the host 30 checks all ports to search for any ports to physically interlink the host 30 with the peripheral device 32 if it is determined that the host 30 is not interlinked with the peripheral device 32 through the basic port. Here, if an interlinked port to physically interlink the host 30 with the peripheral device 32 exists, the basic port is automatically switched over to the interlinked port as described in [0031].

Lozano et al. & Kim are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor of image processing; e.g., both references disclose methods of connecting computers to peripherals such as printers by means of driver software.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to map a port from the at least one selected accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been so that the user does not have to manually search and connect a port before transmitting the print data to the printer. The basic port can be switched over to the interlinked port automatically or by a user's permission, or without a user's permission. The user does not need to physically, or through a program, change the basic port.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Kim's method of setting a port with Lozano's system of installing printers to obtain the invention as specified because the user can conveniently change the basic port into another port, and even users with little knowledge of changing of the basic port can also switch another port without errors. Further, burdensome and unnecessary after-sale services related to the changes of ports for makers of peripheral devices and hosts can be avoided as disclosed by Kim in [0006].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4.   Claims 1, 3-8, 10-15, 17-22, and 24-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as

being unpatentable over Lozano et al. (US 2004/0030809) in view of Kim (US

2003/0128386).

Regarding Claim 1: (Currently Amended)

        Lozano et al. teaches a method for a printer driver ([0038], line10) on a client

machine ([0037], line 3) to communicate with a network printer ([0051], line 9)

communicatively coupled to a print server ([0051], line 11), comprising the steps of:

        loading a shared printer driver from an associated to a client machine ([0050],

see program step 700);

        searching a computer network (program step 200 in Figure 1) for at least one

network accessible printer corresponding to the loaded printer driver, which network

accessible printer is accessible by the client machine ([0042], lines 1-3) via data

connection between the printer and an associated server ([0051], lines 4-17);

        selecting at least one accessible printer located by an associated user ([0042],

lines 3-7 and step 108 in Figure 1);

retrieving identifier data associated with each selected printer ([0052], lines 1-8);

retrieving a network address, corresponding to the at least one accessible printer selected by the user ([0051], lines 1-4 and step 200 in Figure 1);

storing ([0035]) the network address, corresponding identifier data and a network path corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer in an internal value table ([0046]) of the client machine ([0052], lines 1-4 and 202 in Figure 2); and

mapping a port in accordance with the value table (e.g., server based database described in [0080], lines 7-8;), wherein the printer driver of the client machine is able to pass through an actual port associated therewith for bidirectional data communication ([0006], lines 8-9) with the at least one selected accessible printer via the data connection ([0044], lines 1-9 and step 300 in Figure 1 and [0051], lines 4-17).

Lozano et al. does not disclose wherein a print driver is obtained and loaded from a print server to a client machine and mapping a port from the at least one selected network accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine.

Kim discloses wherein a print driver is obtained and loaded from a print server to a client machine and mapping a port from the at least one selected network accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine.

FIG. 2 is a block diagram illustrating a peripheral device driver to carry out the method of setting a port, and illustrates a peripheral device driver 40 to carry out the method of setting a port, which is described with reference to FIG. 1, and comprises a host 30 and a peripheral device 32.

The peripheral device driver 40 may be built in the host 30 and serves to drive the peripheral device 32. As described above, in a case where the method of setting a port is carried out in the peripheral device driver 40, the

peripheral device driver 40 can carry out the method of setting the port when it monitors or drives the peripheral

device 32 as described in [0026].

If it is determined that the port to interlink the host 30 with the peripheral device 32 exists in operation 12,

operation 14 may be skipped and operation 16 may be carried out. In this case, the method of setting a port

described with reference to FIG. 1 does not perform operation 14, and the method of processing a job does not

perform operation 20. In other words, if it is determined that the port to physically interlink the host 30 with the

peripheral device 32 exists in operation 12, the basic port is switched over to the port to physically interlink the host

30 with the peripheral device 32 in operation 16. Finally, the peripheral device driver 40 which exists in the host 30

checks all ports to search for any ports to physically interlink the host 30 with the peripheral device 32 if it is

determined that the host 30 is not interlinked with the peripheral device 32 through the basic port. Here, if an

interlinked port to physically interlink the host 30 with the peripheral device 32 exists, the basic port is automatically

switched over to the interlinked port as described in [0031].

Lozano et al. & Kim are combinable because they are from the same field of

endeavor of image processing; e.g., both references disclose methods of connecting

computers to peripherals such as printers by means of driver software.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary

skill in the art to map a port from the at least one selected accessible printer to a port on

a printer driver on the client machine.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been so that the user does

not have to manually search and connect a port before transmitting the print data to the

printer. The basic port can be switched over to the interlinked port automatically or by a

user's permission, or without a user's permission. The user does not need to physically,

or through a program, change the basic port.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Kim's method of setting a port

with Lozano's system of installing printers to obtain the invention as specified in Claim 1

because the user can conveniently change the basic port into another port, and even

users with little knowledge of changing of the basic port can also switch another port

without errors. Further, burdensome and unnecessary after-sale services related to the

changes of ports for makers of peripheral devices and hosts can be avoided as

disclosed by Kim in [0006].

Regarding Claim 2: (Cancelled)

Regarding Claim 3: (Original)

        The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of exporting a function to the

printer driver ([0042], lines 3-7).

Regarding Claim 4: (Original)

        The method of claim 1, wherein the network address is an Internet Protocol

address ([0059], lines 1-9).

Regarding Claim 5: (Original)

        The method of claim 1, wherein the network address is a proprietary network

protocol address ([0067], lines 1-18).

Regarding Claim 6: (Previously Presented)

The method of 5, wherein the proprietary network protocol is an Internet Packet Exchange protocol ([0067], lines 1-18).

Regarding Claim 7: (Previously Presented)

The method of claim 1, wherein the storing step further comprises storing an associated port name corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer in an internal value table of the client machine ([0052], lines 1-3).

Regarding Claim 8: (Currently Amended)

Lozano et al. teaches a system for a printer driver ([0038], line10) on a client machine ([0037], line 3) to communicate with a network printer ([0051], line 9) communicatively coupled to a print server ([0051], line 11), comprising:

means (the software code of the browser program that is described in [0042], lines 1-3) adapted for searching a computer network for at least one network accessible printer (program step 200 in Figure 1) corresponding to the loaded printer driver, which network accessible printer is accessible by the client machine via a data connection between the printer and an associated server ([0051], lines 4-17);

means (the software code of the browser program that is described in [0042], lines 3-7) adapted for selecting at least one accessible printer corresponding to the loaded printer driver, which network accessible printer is located by an associated user (step 108 in Figure 1);

means adapted for retrieving identifier data associated with each selected printer ([0052], lines 1-8);

means (the software code of the browser program that is described in [0051], lines 1-4) adapted for retrieving a network address corresponding to the at least one accessible printer selected by the user user (step 200 in Figure 1);

means (the software code of the browser program that is described in [0052], lines 1-4) adapted for storing ([0035]) the network address, corresponding identifier data and a network path corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer in an internal value table ([0046]) of the client machine (202 in Figure 2); and

means (the software code of the browser program that is described in [0044], lines 1-9; and [0051], lines 4-17) adapted for mapping a port in accordance with the value table (e.g., server based database described in [0080], lines 7-8), wherein the printer driver of the client machine is able to pass through an actual port associated therewith for bidirectional data communication ([0006], lines 8-9) with the at least one selected accessible printer via the data connection (step 300 in Figure 1).

Lozano et al. does not disclose wherein a print driver is obtained and loaded from a print server to a client machine and mapping a port from the at least one selected network accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine.

Kim discloses wherein a print driver is obtained and loaded from a print server to a client machine and mapping a port from the at least one selected network accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine.

FIG. 2 is a block diagram illustrating a peripheral device driver to carry out the method of setting a port, and illustrates a peripheral device driver 40 to carry out the method of setting a port, which is described with reference to FIG. 1, and comprises a host 30 and a peripheral device 32.

The peripheral device driver 40 may be built in the host 30 and serves to drive the peripheral device 32. As described above, in a case where the method of setting a port is carried out in the peripheral device driver 40, the peripheral device driver 40 can carry out the method of setting the port when it monitors or drives the peripheral device 32 as described in [0026].

If it is determined that the port to interlink the host 30 with the peripheral device 32 exists in operation 12, operation 14 may be skipped and operation 16 may be carried out. In this case, the method of setting a port described with reference to FIG. 1 does not perform operation 14, and the method of processing a job does not perform operation 20. In other words, if it is determined that the port to physically interlink the host 30 with the peripheral device 32 exists in operation 12, the basic port is switched over to the port to physically interlink the host 30 with the peripheral device 32 in operation 16. Finally, the peripheral device driver 40 which exists in the host 30 checks all ports to search for any ports to physically interlink the host 30 with the peripheral device 32 if it is determined that the host 30 is not interlinked with the peripheral device 32 through the basic port. Here, if an interlinked port to physically interlink the host 30 with the peripheral device 32 exists, the basic port is automatically switched over to the interlinked port as described in [0031].

Lozano et al. & Kim are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor of image processing; e.g., both references disclose methods of connecting computers to peripherals such as printers by means of driver software.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to map a port from the at least one selected accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been so that the user does not have to manually search and connect a port before transmitting the print data to the printer. The basic port can be switched over to the interlinked port automatically or by a

user's permission, or without a user's permission. The user does not need to physically, or through a program, change the basic port.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Kim's method of setting a port with Lozano's system of installing printers to obtain the invention as specified in Claim 8 because the user can conveniently change the basic port into another port, and even users with little knowledge of changing of the basic port can also switch another port without errors. Further, burdensome and unnecessary after-sale services related to the changes of ports for makers of peripheral devices and hosts can be avoided as disclosed by Kim in [0006].

Regarding Claim 9: (Cancelled)

Regarding Claim 10:   (Original)

The system of claim 8, further comprising means adapted for exporting a function to the printer driver ([0042], lines 3-7).

Regarding Claim 11:   (Original)

The system of claim 8, wherein the network address is an Internet Protocol address ([0059], lines 1-9).

Regarding Claim 12:   (Original)

The system of claim 8, wherein the network address is a proprietary network protocol address ([0067], lines 1-18).

Regarding Claim 13:   (Previously Presented)

The system of 12, wherein the proprietary network protocol is an Internet Packet Exchange protocol ([0067], lines 1-18).

Regarding Claim 14:   (Previously Presented)

The system of claim 8, further comprising means adapted for storing an associated port name corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer in an internal value table of the client machine ([0052], lines 1-3).

Regarding Claim 15:   (Currently Amended)

A computer-implemented for a printer driver ([0038], line10) on a client machine ([0037], line 3) to communicate with a network printer ([0051], line 9) communicatively coupled to a print server ([0051], line 11), comprising the steps of:

searching a computer network (program step 200 in Figure 1) for at least one printer accessible by the client machine ([0042], lines 1-3) via a connection through an associated server ([0051], lines 4-17);

selecting at least one accessible printer located by an associated user;

retrieving identifier data associated with each selected printer ([0052], lines 1-8);

retrieving a network address corresponding to at least one accessible printer selected by a user ([0051], lines 1-4 and step 200 in Figure 1);

storing ([0035]) the network address, corresponding identifier data and a network path corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer in an internal value table ([0046]) of the client machine ([0052], lines 1-4 and 202 in Figure 2); and

mapping a port in accordance with the value table (e.g., server based database described in [0080], lines 7-8), wherein the printer driver of the client machine is able to pass through an actual port associated therewith for bidirectional data communication ([0006], lines 8-9) with the at least one selected accessible printer ([0044], lines 1-9 and step 300 in Figure 1 and [0051], lines 4-17).

Lozano et al. does not disclose wherein a print driver is obtained and loaded from a print server to a client machine and mapping a port from the at least one selected network accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine.

Kim discloses wherein a print driver is obtained and loaded from a print server to a client machine and mapping a port from the at least one selected network accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine.

FIG. 2 is a block diagram illustrating a peripheral device driver to carry out the method of setting a port, and illustrates a peripheral device driver 40 to carry out the method of setting a port, which is described with reference to FIG. 1, and comprises a host 30 and a peripheral device 32.

The peripheral device driver 40 may be built in the host 30 and serves to drive the peripheral device 32. As described above, in a case where the method of setting a port is carried out in the peripheral device driver 40, the peripheral device driver 40 can carry out the method of setting the port when it monitors or drives the peripheral device 32 as described in [0026].

If it is determined that the port to interlink the host 30 with the peripheral device 32 exists in operation 12,

operation 14 may be skipped and operation 16 may be carried out. In this case, the method of setting a port

described with reference to FIG. 1 does not perform operation 14, and the method of processing a job does not

perform operation 20. In other words, if it is determined that the port to physically interlink the host 30 with the

peripheral device 32 exists in operation 12, the basic port is switched over to the port to physically interlink the host

30 with the peripheral device 32 in operation 16. Finally, the peripheral device driver 40 which exists in the host 30

checks all ports to search for any ports to physically interlink the host 30 with the peripheral device 32 if it is

determined that the host 30 is not interlinked with the peripheral device 32 through the basic port. Here, if an

interlinked port to physically interlink the host 30 with the peripheral device 32 exists, the basic port is automatically

switched over to the interlinked port as described in [0031].

Lozano et al. & Kim are combinable because they are from the same field of

endeavor of image processing; e.g., both references disclose methods of connecting

computers to peripherals such as printers by means of driver software.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary

skill in the art to map a port from the at least one selected accessible printer to a port on

a printer driver on the client machine.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been so that the user does

not have to manually search and connect a port before transmitting the print data to the

printer. The basic port can be switched over to the interlinked port automatically or by a

user's permission, or without a user's permission. The user does not need to physically,

or through a program, change the basic port.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Kim's method of setting a port

with Lozano's system of installing printers to obtain the invention as specified in Claim

15 because the user can conveniently change the basic port into another port, and even

users with little knowledge of changing of the basic port can also switch another port

without errors. Further, burdensome and unnecessary after-sale services related to the

changes of ports for makers of peripheral devices and hosts can be avoided as

disclosed by Kim in [0006].

Regarding Claim 16:   (Cancelled)

Regarding Claim 17:   (Original)

The computer-implemented method of claim 15 further comprising the step of

exporting a function to the printer driver ([0042], lines 3-7).

Regarding Claim 18:   (Original)

The computer-implemented method of claim 15, wherein the network address is

an Internet Protocol address ([0059], lines 1-9).

Regarding Claim 19:   (Original)

The computer-implemented method of claim 15, wherein the network address is

a proprietary network protocol address ([0067], lines 1-18).

Regarding Claim 20:   (Original)

The computer-implemented method of 19, wherein the proprietary network

protocol is an Internetwork Packet Exchange protocol ([0067], lines 1-18).

Regarding Claim 21:   (Previously Presented)

      The computer-implemented method of claim 15, wherein the storing step further comprises storing a port name corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer in an internal value table of the client machine([0052], lines 1-3).

Regarding Claim 22:

      A computer-readable medium for a printer driver ([0038], line10) on a client machine ([0037], line 3) to communicate with a network printer ([0051], line 9) communicatively coupled to a print server ([0051], line 11), comprising:

      means (the software code of the browser program that is described in ([0042], lines 1-3) adapted for searching a computer network (program step 200 in Figure 1) for at least one printer accessible by the client machine via a connection through an associated server ([0051], lines 4-17);

      means (the software code of the browser program that is described in ([0042], lines 3-7) adapted for selecting at least one accessible printer located by an associated user (step 108 in Figure 1);

      means adapted for retrieving identifier data associated with each selected printer ([0052], lines 1-8);

      means (the software code of the browser program that is described in ([0051], lines 1-4) adapted for retrieving a network address corresponding to the at least one accessible printer selected by the user user (step 200 in Figure 1);

means (the software code of the browser program that is described in [0052],
lines 1-4) adapted for storing the network address corresponding identifier data   and a
network path corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer in an internal
value table ([0046]) of the client machine (202 in Figure 2); and

means (the software code of the browser program that is described in [0044],
lines 1-9; and [0051], lines 4-17) adapted for mapping a port in accordance with the
value table(e.g., server based database described in [0080], lines 7-8), wherein the
printer driver of the client machine is able to pass through an actual port associated
therewith for bidirectional data communication ([0006], lines 8-9) with the at least one
selected accessible printer (step 300 in Figure 1).

Lozano et al. does not disclose wherein a print driver is obtained and loaded from
a print server to a client machine and mapping a port from the at least one selected
network accessible printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine.

Kim discloses wherein a print driver is obtained and loaded from a print server to
a client machine and mapping a port from the at least one selected network accessible
printer to a port on a printer driver on the client machine.

FIG. 2 is a block diagram illustrating a peripheral device driver to carry out the method of setting a port, and
illustrates a peripheral <u>device driver 40 to carry out the method of setting a port</u>, which is described with reference to
FIG. 1, and comprises a host 30 and a peripheral device 32.

The peripheral device driver 40 may be built in the host 30 and serves to drive the peripheral device 32. As
described above, in a case where the method of setting a port is carried out in the peripheral device driver 40, the
peripheral device driver 40 can carry out the method of setting the port when it monitors or drives the peripheral
device 32 as described in [0026].

If it is determined that the port to interlink the host 30 with the peripheral device 32 exists in operation 12,

operation 14 may be skipped and operation 16 may be carried out. In this case, the method of setting a port

described with reference to FIG. 1 does not perform operation 14, and the method of processing a job does not

perform operation 20. In other words, if it is determined that the port to physically interlink the host 30 with the

peripheral device 32 exists in operation 12, the basic port is switched over to the port to physically interlink the host

30 with the peripheral device 32 in operation 16. Finally, the peripheral device driver 40 which exists in the host 30

checks all ports to search for any ports to physically interlink the host 30 with the peripheral device 32 if it is

determined that the host 30 is not interlinked with the peripheral device 32 through the basic port. Here, if an

interlinked port to physically interlink the host 30 with the peripheral device 32 exists, the basic port is automatically

switched over to the interlinked port as described in [0031].

Lozano et al. & Kim are combinable because they are from the same field of

endeavor of image processing; e.g., both references disclose methods of connecting

computers to peripherals such as printers by means of driver software.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary

skill in the art to map a port from the at least one selected accessible printer to a port on

a printer driver on the client machine.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been so that the user does

not have to manually search and connect a port before transmitting the print data to the

printer. The basic port can be switched over to the interlinked port automatically or by a

user's permission, or without a user's permission. The user does not need to physically,

or through a program, change the basic port.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Kim's method of setting a port

with Lozano's system of installing printers to obtain the invention as specified in Claim

22 because the user can conveniently change the basic port into another port, and even

users with little knowledge of changing of the basic port can also switch another port

without errors. Further, burdensome and unnecessary after-sale services related to the

changes of ports for makers of peripheral devices and hosts can be avoided as

disclosed by Kim in [0006].

Regarding Claim 23:   (Cancelled)

Regarding Claim 24:   (Original)

        The computer-readable medium of claim 22, further comprising means adapted

for exporting a function to the printer driver ([0042], lines 3-7).

Regarding Claim 25:   (Original)

        The computer-readable medium of claim 22, wherein the network address is an

Internet Protocol address ([0059], lines 1-9).

Regarding Claim 26:   (Original)

        The computer-readable medium of claim 22, wherein the network address is a

proprietary network protocol address ([0067], lines 1-18).

Regarding Claim 27:   (Previously Presented)

        The computer-readable medium of 26, wherein the proprietary network protocol

is an Internet Packet Exchange protocol ([0067], lines 1-18).

Regarding Claim 28:   (Previously Presented)

The computer-readable medium of claim 22, further comprising means adapted for storing a port name corresponding to the at least one selected accessible printer in an internal value table of the client machine ([0052], lines 1-3).

Conclusion

5.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Schacht et al. (US 6,959,437) teaches receiving a request addressed to a first IP address from a network-connected computer workstation; supplying a web page from an embedded web server; in response to accessing the web server, causing printer driver software to be supplied to the computer workstation; receiving documents from the computer workstation in accordance with the supplied printer driver software; and, processing the received documents.

Examiner Notes

6.   The Examiner cites particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested that, in preparing responses, the applicant fully considers the references in its entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as

well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or as disclosed by the

Examiner.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Neil R. McLean whose telephone number is (571)270-

1679. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday   7:30AM-

4:00PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, David K. Moore can be reached on 571.272.7437. The fax phone number

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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/Neil R. McLean/
Examiner, Art Unit 2625

7/24/2008

/David K Moore/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625